

Agricultural Research has set up a sub-group on "Sustainability".

(b) The sub-group has fourteen members with Dr. J.S. Kanwar, an eminent Soil Scientist, as chairman. The members are eminent experts in the disciplines of Agronomy, Plant Breeding, Soil Science, Horticulture, Forestry and Plant Protection.

(c) The sub-group is to meet once in three months and submit recommendations from time to time.

Oil Palm Cultivation

6812. SHRI RAMA KRISHNA KONATHALA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Oilseeds Technology Mission has identified areas in Andhra Pradesh for cultivation;

(b) if so, the areas identified by the Mission;

(c) whether the proposal envisages replacement of existing crops; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) An Expert Committee constituted by the Ministry of Agriculture has identified certain areas in Andhra Pradesh for oil palm cultivation.

(b) The Export Committee identified 50,000 ha. in Krishna district and 1,00,000 ha. each in West Godavari and East Godavari districts.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Most of the areas identified are up-

land areas where the crops like bajra, jowar are presently grown.

Occupation of Land by Bangladesh

6813. SHRI DWARKA NATH DAS: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that over 250 bighas of land at 'Dombari' along India-Bangladesh Border under Patharkanoli L.A. Constituency in Karimganj district of Assam have forcibly been occupied by the Bangladeshis although the same are within Indian territory;

(b) whether the Government are also aware that as per Indira-Muzib Pact in 1974, Lathitila are under the above said constituency was transferred to Bangladesh and the Indian occupants had to surrender their rights of possession in lieu of compensation but until now nothing has been done in this regard; and

(c) if so, the steps taken/being taken in regard to (a) and (b) above?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). There is no provision for payment of compensation in lieu of surrender of rights of possession in case of transferred areas in the Indo-Bangladesh Land Boundary Agreement of 1974. The people have the right of staying on where they are as nationals of the State to which the areas are transferred and status-quo is to be maintained pending demarcation of the boundary.